

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
Tuesday, January 12, 2016

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held at 6:45pm in Conference Room A in Town Hall with four selectpersons, the Town Administrator and the Asst. Town Administrator, Selectperson Wilkinson was not present.

6:45 Meeting Called to Order

Executive Session – MGL Ch. 30A §21(a) – Approval of Minutes: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Board of Selectmen enter into Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, §21(a) to approve Executive Session minutes and to reconvene in Open Session.” Roll Call Vote: Chairperson Battistelli – aye, Selectperson Lucas – aye, Selectperson Murphy – aye, Selectperson Sheedy – aye, all in favor.

Motion to enter  
Executive Session  
Roll Call Vote,  
Motion Approved

7:00 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

7:05 Tax Classification Hearing: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board of Selectmen open the annual tax classification hearing at 7:06 PM, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 3-0. Selectperson Lucas abstained from vote and left the table.

Motion to Open Tax  
Classification  
Hearing  
Motion Approved

Chairperson Battistelli read the notice in the newspaper. She said Rockport has historically had one classification and one rate. Diane Lashua, Assessor’s office, said the 5.9% of all taxes come from commercial businesses.

T. Arsenian, 95 Granite St., said this is a tax shelter for the owners, he recommends a letter be sent to Senator Tarr and Rep. Ferrante suggesting that the state laws on assessing land be changed so that those who do cash in have to pay all of the back taxes if those lots were buildable.

Eric Hutchins, 45 Poole’s Lane, said years ago he and his wife donated 1.5 acres of land in the water shed area to the town. It was considered unbuildable; when people are donating land for the long term he believes the tax rate should be lower. He said at the time of his land donation he was told that the town needed the tax money.

Jim Ugoni, 33 Main St., said Chapter 61 and 61B is for agricultural use and forest land use, you have to do a certain amount of production to be classified under this. They can go back as many as ten years if you change your mind and want to reverse it.

Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board of Selectmen close the tax classification hearing at 7:14 PM, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 3-0.

Motion to close Tax  
Classification  
Hearing  
Motion Approved

Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen adopt a unified tax rate for fiscal year 2016, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 3-0.

Motion to adopt  
unified tax rate for  
FY’16  
Motion Approved

Interview of Jim Ugone for the Historic District/Historical Commissions: Selectperson Lucas nominated Jim Ugone as a member of the Historic District/Historical Commissions for a one and one half year term to expire on June 30, 2017, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 3-0. Vice Chair Murphy chaired the meeting for this motion, as Chairperson Battistelli abstained from the vote. Now he is a full time resident of Rockport; he was a part time resident for 16 years. He has renovated his property on

Nomination of Jim  
Ugone for Historic  
District/Historical  
Commissions  
Motion Approved

Main Street so has the unique perspective of balancing the requirements of renovating an historic property and working within economic realities.

Approval of 12/1/15  
Minutes  
Motion Approved

Approval of Minutes of December 1, 2015: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of December 1, 2015, seconded by Selectperson Lucas, Vote: 3-0.

Selectperson Sheedy cannot vote as she was not present on 12/1/15. Edits: on page 3, the requested road race start times were actually earlier, not later.

Approval of 12/15/15  
Minutes  
Motion Approved

Approval of Minutes of December 15, 2015: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of December 15, 2015, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 3-0. Selectperson Lucas cannot vote as she was not present on 12/15/15. Edit: on page 1, it was stated two times CPC; it should read CIPC.

Public Comment  
Period

Public Comment Period: T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, said on Breakwater Avenue, Cathedral Avenue; a large sign was put there by Maureen McCarthy, indicating it's a private road and the public can't use it. The town owns a piece of property on that road. He has asked several times and is wondering what, if anything, the town has done. The Town Administrator said she can investigate this; she stated that people can access the town owned property. He said, at a recent DPW Commission meeting, he inquired about the Building Study; it's been going on for a number of years. He inquired if we could we receive an explanation of the study.

Eric Hutchins, 45 Poole's Lane, read a letter he prepared regarding the current and future plans for the train station. He is asking that it be on a Board of Selectmen formal agenda to be discussed in greater detail. He said there has been no technical review on traffic, water, parking, municipal storm water, or drinking water supply protection. He said there have been no evaluations conducted and no one has been notified about what is going on. He said permits were necessary and the process should be transparent.

Chairperson Battistelli said a public meeting may be appropriate to bring information forward. She said the power upgrade has been planned for some time; a much larger project was originally planned. The power upgrade was critical due to idling and emissions issues. She said the relocation of the track was a good thing for Evan's Field and the town.

Town  
Administrator's  
Report

#### Town Administrator's Report:

- The Ethics Compliance Project was due by 12/31/15; M. Vieira said we had a great return.
- The Town Administrator said L. Hale has shared his frustration with her regarding the plowing of private roads, and there isn't a resolution to the issue this year again.
- The Town Administrator said some committees are asking if the Board of Selectmen members can visit their meetings – the liaison list has not been updated.
- FY 17 budget development. The Town Administrator said there are more steps in the Finance Management process. The departments have all submitted their requests. There is a new step required for the Town Administrator to recommend the budget. She said they are trying to close a nearly \$400,000 deficit. She said the CIPC will be here at next Tuesday's Board of Selectmen workshop along with the DPW and many

town departments. She said they made some temporary decisions about free cash usage based on priorities of needs.

- She said at next Tuesday night's meeting there will be a presentation on a new DPW facility. This request was separated out because it is a large ticket item and also if we recommended this for Town Meeting it; would be a debt exclusion, similar to the police station.
- Chairperson Battistelli spoke about the Transportation Improvement Program for Federal fiscal years from 2017 through 2021. She inquired what projects we would like to include in the plan.

#### Action List

#### Action List:

- Appointment of Ron Gravel to the Insurance Committee: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Board of Selectmen appoint Ron Gravel as a member of the Insurance Committee for a one and one-half year term to expire on June 30, 2017, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 3-0. Selectperson Lucas abstained from the vote as she was not present for the interview.
- Appointment of Kevin St. Peter as Dog/Animal Control Officer: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board appoint Kevin St. Peter as Dog/Animal Control Officer for a one and one-half year term to expire on June 30, 2017, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.
- Amend Appointment of Joanne Wile as Historic District/Historical Commissions Member to Alternate Member: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board amend its vote taken on February 3, 2015 that appointed Joanne Wile as a member of the Historic District and Historical Commissions for a three year term to expire on June 30, 2018 by appointing Ms. Wile as an Alternate Member as she requested and for a one and one-half year term to expire on June 30, 2017, seconded by Selectperson Lucas, Vote: 3-0. Chairperson Battistelli abstained.
- Granite Pier Revetment Repairs Contract: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Board approve and sign a Contractor Agreement with SumCo Eco-Contracting, Inc. of 16 Front Street, Suite 209, Salem, Massachusetts, for the Granite Pier Revetment Repairs IFB 2016-008 for the sum of \$172,000.00, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0. L. Sanders said the CIPC joined the Back Beach and the Granite Pier projects, so this contract will leave very little for Back Beach.
- Snow & Ice Amortization: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen adopt the three year amortization schedule to pay the remaining FY15 snow and ice deficit, Selectperson Sheedy seconded, Vote: 4-0.
- Open April 2, 2016 Special & Annual Town Meeting Warrants: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Selectmen open the April 2, 2016 Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 4-0.
- Rockport Music Event at Millbrook Meadow: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Board of Selectmen approve Rockport Music's use of Millbrook Meadow on Saturday, August 27, 2016 for its Annual Gala, Selectperson Sheedy seconded, Vote: 4-0. T. Arsenian, 95 Granite St., said he is not opposed to the use of the Meadow but believes if a group is making money from the Meadow; the town should receive funds (perhaps on a sliding fee). Tony Beedle said they made a \$1,000 donation to the Meadow. Shannon Mason, Vice Chair of the Millbrook Meadow Committee, said the Committee was also offered a full page placement in the chamber festival

Appointment of Ron  
Gravel to Insurance  
Committee  
Motion Approved

Appointment of  
Kevin St. Peter as  
Dog/Animal Control  
Officer  
Motion Approved

Amend Historic  
District/Historical  
Commissions  
Appointment of  
Joanne Wile  
Motion Approved

Granite Pier  
Revetment Repairs  
Contract  
Motion Approved

Snow & Ice  
Amortization  
Motion Approved

Open 4/2/16 Special  
& Annual Town  
Meeting  
Motion Approved

Rockport Music  
Event at Millbrook  
Meadow on 8/27/16  
Motion Approved

Action List  
Continued

publication valued at \$5,000. She said several donations were received totaling about \$14,000 for the restoration project.

138 Long Beach  
Lease, Stephen Doig  
Motion Approved

- 138 Long Beach Lease for Stephen G. Doig: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a Lease for 138 Long Beach with Stephen G. Doig, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

Pigeon Cove Lease  
Transfer, K. Nelson  
Motion Approved

- Pigeon Cove Lease Transfer to Kyle Nelson: Selectperson Sheedy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a Pigeon Cove Land Lease with Kyle Nelson for a term to expire on June 30, 2017, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, Vote: 4-0.

Pigeon Cove Lease  
Albert Olson, Jr.  
Motion Approved

- Pigeon Cove Lease for Albert Olson, Jr.: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a Pigeon Cove Land Lease with Albert Olson, Jr. for a term to expire on June 30, 2017, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 4-0

Other Business/  
Announcements

Other Business/Announcements: The Assistant Town Administrator said on 1/4/16 the town received correspondence regarding the S. Sheehan complaint. The town's response must be sent out on Friday, so the board members are asked to give any input by Thursday, 1/14/16.

8:30 Selectperson Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectperson Sheedy, Vote: 4-0.

Items signed:

DOR, Classification Tax Allocation

Snow & Ice Amortization Schedule, Chapter 10, Section 58 of the Acts of 2015

Granite Pier Revetment Repairs, Contractor Agreement, SumCo Eco-Contracting LLC, \$172,000

Land Lease, Albert Olson, Jr., 2 years

Land Lease, Kyle Nelson, 2 years

Stephen Doig, 138 Long Beach Lease

Used Car Dealer, John B and Cathy Porter, Sandy Bay Service Center

Nate's at Front Beach, Common Victualler's License

Dunkin Donuts, Braga Donuts, Common Victualler's License